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SUBJ: CIVAIR: US-ITALY AGREEMENT

REF.: ROME 3334

1. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF REMARKS BY FOREIGN MINISTER MORO AND AMBASSADOR MARTIN ON OCCASION OF SIGNING OF AIR TRANSPORT AGREEEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ITALY ON JUNE 22.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S REMARKS: (UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION)

"EXCELLENCY:
IT IS NOT INFREQUENTLY THAT GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR TWO NATIONS MEET TO SIGN A DOCUMENT INTENDED TO SERVE AS A FURTHER ELEMENT OF THE PROFOUND AND MANY TIES THAT UNITE THEM.

"THE SIGNATURE OF THIS AGREEMENT, HOWEVER, REPRESENTS FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND FOR ALL THOSE WHO DEVOTE THEIR DAILY ACTIVITY TO THE IMPORTANT SECTOR OF AIR TRANSPORT AN ACT OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE. THIS IS FROM A DUAL ASPECT: IN THE FIRST PLACE BECAUSE IT ELIMINATES ONE OF THE FEW, PERHAPS THE ONLY AREA OF SHADOW IN THE EXCELLENT UNDERSTANDING EXISTING IN EVERY FIELD BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS; SECONDLY, BUT NOT LESS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE THE SETTLEMENT OF THIS OLD

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CASE WILL ENABLE THE AIRLINES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TO INTENSIFY THEIR SERVICES, BRINGING THE TWO SHORES OF THE OCEAN EVEN CLOSER.

"THE AIR ACTIVITY BETWEEN ITALY AND THE U.S. WILL THUS BE ABLE TO KEEP PACE WITH THE RATE OF INCREASE WHICH, IN THE MOVING OF PASSENGERS, TOURISTS, BUSINESSMEN, ETC. AND IN THE FAST SHIPMENT OF GOODS, SEES INTERNATIONAL AVIATION ACTIVITY RISE WITH AN ASTONISHING SPEED.

"LAST OCTOBER A TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT IN THE SAME AREA OF TRANSPORTATION WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, THE HONORABLE JOHN VOLPE AND OUR THEN MINISTER OF TRANSPORT.

"I AM NOT MENTIONING THIS CASUALLY, FOR IN THE SETTLING OF THIS DIFFICULT PROBLEM WHICH FOR SO MANY YEARS HAS ENGAGED OUR NEGOTIATORS, THE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION OF MINISTER VOLPE AND HIS DYNAMIC OPTIMISM HAVE CERTAINLY PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE.

"IT IS IN THE LIGHT OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS AND WITH THE SENTIMENT OF AN INCREASINGLY CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES, REINFORCED BY THIS IMPORTANT AGREEMENT, THAT I EXPRESS ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT, OF THE CIRCLES CONCERNED AND OF THOSE WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS UNDERSTANDING, MY SINCEREST FELICITATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THE RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS, TO THE AUTHORITIES IN CHARGE OF THIS SECTOR AND TO YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, FOR THE FORMAL ACT WE HAVE JUST ACCOMPLISHED, WHICH REALIZES AN ASPIRATION FELT FOR SO MANY YEARS." END TEXT.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S REMARKS:

"YOUR EXCELLENCY:
I VERY MUCH WELCOME YOUR EXCELLENCY'S GENERAOUS REMARKS. THE CEREMONY WE HAVE JUST CONCLUDED MARKS ONE OF THOSE OCCASIONS, ALL TOO INFREQUENT LATELY IN THIS BUSINESS OF DIPLOMACY, WHEN ONE CAN BE PRESENT AT THE DEFINITIVE RESOLUTION OF AN OLD AND STUBBORN PROBLEM. WE HAVE REACHED AN AGREEMENT WHICH, I AM SURE, BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS CONSIDER FAIR AND SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES AND WHICH PUTS AN END TO AN ISSUE WHICH HAS BEEN WITH US FOR SOME TIME.

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"THE AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT, WHICH WE HAVE JUST SIGNED, MOREOVER, OFFERS SIGNIFICANT NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO THE AIR-LINES OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THE FLOW OF TRAVELERS AND COMMERCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ITALY. THIS WILL SERVE, IN A VERY MATERIAL WAY, TO STRENGTHEN THE HISTORIC BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING WHICH HAVE CREATED A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WHICH IS A VERY SPECIAL ONE.

"I SHOULD LIKE ON THIS OCCASION TO CONGRATULATE THE NEGOTIATORS ON BOTH SIDES WHO, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF PATIENT NEGOTIATION AND MUTUAL RESPECT, LABORED SO LONG AND PATIENTLY OVER THE YEARS TO ACHIEVE THIS RESULT. THEY CAME NOT ONLY TO RESPECT AND ADMIRE EACH OTHER'S ABILITY AND ASTUTENESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT ALSO TO CONSIDER THEMSELVES AS FRIENDS. I AM TOLD THAT THE MOMENT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE DECLARED CONCLUDED, THE NATURAL FEELINGS OF SATISFACTION AROUND THE TABLE INCLUDED ALSO A MOOD OF NOSTALGIA WHEN THE PARTICIPANTS REALIZED, THAT AFTER SO MANY YEARS, THAT MEETING WOULD BE THE LAST.

"I AM APPRECIATEVE OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S COMMENTS REGARDING OUR SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, THE HONORABLE JOHN VOLPE. I AM SURE HE SHARES WITH US THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH, AS YOUR EXCELLENCY HAS RECOGNIZED, HE HAD SUCH A VITAL INTEREST.

"I AM CONFIDENT, MR. MINISTER, THAT THE ACTION WHICH OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE TAKEN TODAY WILL AGAIN REINFORCE THE HARMONY OF INTERESTS AND OUTLOOK WHICH, FOR SUCH A VERY LONG TIME, HAS BEEN THE BASIC THEME UNDERLYING THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES." END TEXT.
MARTIN

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